



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 375

January Session, 2017

Substitute Senate Bill No. 948

Senate, April 3, 2017

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. BYE of the 5th Dist. and SEN. LINARES of the 33rd Dist., Chairpersons of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING DIGITAL DISCOUNTS TO REDUCE THE COST OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) The Office of Higher
- 2 Education may assist the Board of Regents for Higher Education and
- 3 The University of Connecticut in establishing guidelines that
- 4 encourage public and independent institutions of higher education to
- 5 implement programs that reduce the cost of textbooks and other
- 6 educational resources for students.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section
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HED Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

There is no cost associated with the Office of Higher Education assisting the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the University of Connecticut in establishing guidelines regarding programs that affect the cost of textbooks, as they have expertise in the topic area.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB-948*****AN ACT CONCERNING DIGITAL DISCOUNTS TO REDUCE THE COST OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill allows the Office of Higher Education to help the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) and UConn establish guidelines that encourage public and private colleges and universities to implement programs that reduce the cost of textbooks and other educational resources for students. (BOR and UConn lack the authority to establish guidelines that private colleges and universities must follow.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2018

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 2 (03/15/2017)